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LITERATURE FOR THE SICK AND THEIR NURSES

DEAR EDITOR: The "Letters to the Editor" of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING have been especially interesting, as the personal letters of the trained nurse are of much help to the unfortunate patients and their families and friends.

The donation of old papers and magazines is always appreciated by hospital patients, but those who are obliged to remain where it is quiet and peaceful for many months or years are fortunate if they have a daily, weekly, or monthly paper or magazine to look forward to, to occupy the mind.

Having had some experience in the hospital corps work at home and abroad, in time of peace and war, during the past fifteen years, I can appreciate your "Editorial Comment."

The following is a list of papers I have found of much interest to invalids and nurses: Daily, *Public Ledger*, Philadelphia; *New York Herald*. Weekly, *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly*, New York. Monthly, *American Druggist*, New York; AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, Philadelphia; Alumni Report, Philadelphia; *Country Life in America*; *Ladies' Home Journal*; *The Burr McIntosh Monthly*; *The Outlook*.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH MCKEE, Ph.G.

ORANGE JUICE IN CASES OF TYPHOID

DEAR EDITOR: Some time ago I suggested orange juice as excellent in typhoid and noticed in a later JOURNAL that some nurse thought it caused hemorrhage. I do not think the hemorrhage due to juice of oranges. I have had some ten years' experience, nursing a great many typhoid cases, and have, I think without any exception, given orange juice and have seen no bad effects. On the contrary, one patient who had previously had a severe hemorrhage and whose tongue was painfully cracked and dry had no further hemorrhage after the administration of orange juice was begun, and the tongue became softer and clearer. I do not believe orange juice affects hemorrhage at all.

Some physicians recommend that the small globules be given for their effect on the bowels, as the juice is usually absorbed in the stomach before reaching the intestine.

T. MARIE MOHR, R.N.,

Lady Superintendent Mt. Vernon Hospital, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

THE BEARING OF A NURSE IN PUBLIC

DEAR EDITOR: I have read the JOURNAL with great interest during the past six years. It first came into my hands during the last part of my training, when one of the graduates in my city who was on a case at our hospital had a copy with her. Upon my graduation one of my gifts was a year's subscription to the JOURNAL, and ever since then it has been a regular visitor. I have enjoyed every number, but during the past twenty-one months it has meant more than ever, as I have been on a large ranch, caring for two dear old souls, husband and wife, who are eighty-eight and eighty-one years of age. There are no nurses in the town, which is four miles distant, so I have kept in touch with nurses through the JOURNAL.

Many nurses have written upon many different subjects, and I now wish to

tell an experience and ask for the opinion of nurses who know more of what is going on in the larger cities.

In April I was obliged to go to the nearest city, nearly eighty miles away, to have some dentistry done. When I was returning I found a vacant seat in the coach, which happened to be across the aisle from a nurse. She did not wear an outdoor uniform, but was, to my horror, dressed in her full uniform, except her cap.

Had she worn any long coat to have covered her "stripes," I would not have thought it so shocking (although in my training school, which was in connection with a small hospital, we were taught to never appear on the streets with our aprons on), but for a coat she wore a short gray Persian lamb jacket, which she removed, thus revealing her full uniform, bishop collar, wide cuffs, apron with bib, and hospital pin.

I was shocked to see such a parade of my profession, of which I had been taught one should never make a show, but my shock turned to disgust, then to pity, when I saw this uniformed nurse buy a package of gum from the news agent. This she chewed and chewed as she read a *World-Herald*, till my jaws ached to see hers working so hard.

Have I been educated in the wrong way with regard to a nurse's out-door dress, and the way she should deport herself at all times?

I pitied that girl from the bottom of my heart, but I just could not bring myself to address her and find out "from whence she came." Perhaps it was false pride. I have ever been proud of my profession and have tried to conduct myself with dignity, and I fear I felt, as did the proud Pharisee when he said, "I thank God I am not like these."

Will some one please tell me if I am all wrong?

A TRANS-MISSOURI NURSE.

Philanthropy is primarily concerned in these days with the standard of living. It seeks to put an end to such things as overcrowding, physical exhaustion from overwork, undernourishment whether from ignorance or from insufficient income, infections and other preventable disease, and the manufacture of youthful criminals. It is sternly opposed to physical deterioration, and enthusiastically enlisted in every movement which tends to strengthen character and increase efficiency.—THE SURVEY.

Consumption among Japanese laborers is increasing to such a degree that the figures are becoming a source of anxiety to Japanese merchants and officials. A large percentage of laborers who are sent back to Japan by the Japanese charity associations are consumptives. It is claimed by the Japanese newspapers commenting on this matter that, through the lack of hospital accommodations in the Japanese labor camps, tuberculosis increases at an alarming rate. They suggest that a new system be employed in dealing with the sick in these camps, as the Japanese are quite ignorant of even the most simple health safeguards.

Homer Folks of New York City recently stated before the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis that there are in the United States at the present time 75,000 cases of tuberculosis in advanced stages of the disease, every one of whom should be isolated in hospitals, but there are at the present time only 5,000 hospital beds for these cases in the entire country.